

2/26/73

Dear Cedric,

The good news in your letter of the 18th is more good than the bad is bad. And it came today, apparently by burro rather than air.

They've renumbered our rural routes. We haven't moved, but it is now Rt. 8.

I've no reluctance in writing the kinds of letters you want but I'm reluctant to do it or speak without some assurance it won't do more harm than good. Next time I'm in Washington, I'll speak to Raskin, Barnett or Kotler at the IPS and get their opinions. Maybe later this week.

By the way, we are but an hour away and offer a pad with peace, quiet and beauty. Assuming you get here!

There are recent indications that the baddies are uptight about me again. An old friend in the Senate has stopped responding to letters, which makes me wonder about him and them and that. Other indications more significant.

There is a remarkable coincidence in the timing of your letter. Some of those old days have come to mind lately. I'd written Dalton Trumbo, without response, about a part of his fight of which I presume he knew nothing. While they were before the UnAmericans one of their number showed up at my home one night, with a former fellow Senate investigator, asked to borrow the research for my book on Dies, got it, never returned it, and worse, never used it to fight with. It was the one who finked, Dmytryk. Then there was a notice that Trumbo is doing a movie on the JFK assassination. I wonder if he has fallen under the influence of one of the butts on my side, the majority of this side.

Your plans are as indicative of the work of a speakers' bureau as of Bobbs-Merrill p.r. You don't mention what it takes to get the message across and to sell book, talk shows. In some of the places you want to go, maybe I can help, so let me know and I'll give you names. First, of course, you have to get here, and you do not mention what I think should be your first effort, the press. I'd certainly write Ben Bradlee of the Wash Post, which is getting its Nixonian lumps, the ACLU, which has begun to take this kind of interest, the TV nets, etc. The timing of The American Inquisition 1945-60 is, I think, rather good. If you make a real live issue of it whether or not it gets you in, it would get the message across and sell books, which gets more of the message out.

There is more than "the free exchange of ideas" involved in your case. Time has more than vindicated you. And with Nixon going to Mac and Moscow?

If you fail to get in and want to take the time to write letters to talk-show people and local journalism reviews that might give you some attention, as well as some columnists, let me know. Many have gone off the air since I was on the circuit, but some are still one and there are some rather decent columnists now.

Have you considered writing letters yourself? Perhaps this is not a good approach, but if you think it is, those not standing for re-election next year are the best bet. I'd not avoid Teddy Kennedy or the Black Caucus. Less would I avoid them if rejected. If the IPS people, who know enough about me, think it is not counterproductive, I'll make some phone calls instead of writing.

If you are rejected, and if it is possible, I hope you'll consider using the courts. I have sued the government a couple of times, and the sky has not yet fallen in. I even won a couple of times. I have a Freedom of Information case against the FBI in the court of appeals right now. So, when I sue Kleindienst and give him what he may regard as a rough time and when recently I've reminded the State Department that they gypped me out of money, I don't think they'd pay favorable attention to any representation on your behalf in any way that might be helpful. However, specifying nothing public without your sayso, believing you are still a British citizen, I phoned Ian McDonald, a friend in the Washington Bureau of the Times of London. I think he'll be in touch with you soon. Louis Heren, now the Old Lady's American Editor, was Washington bureau chief for years. He has a general awareness of and a dislike for that of which you ~~write~~ ^{write} and what you are experiencing...I rush this to be able to mail it when I leave to pick up my wife. My best to your beautiful daughter Sally, a delight to the eye as well as to the mind. I remember and appreciate her efforts to help me. Hope things work out well. If you can't get in and your publisher doesn't get hung up, you can do some shows by phone, with the stations having the tables. Good luck. ~~Write~~ ^{Write}